

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	USSR (Latvian SSR)	REPORT NO.	██████████ 25X1A
SUBJECT	1. Port of Lepaya 2. Port of Ventspils	DATE DISTR.	20 April 1953
DATE OF INFO.	██████████ 25X1A	NO. OF PAGES	4
PLACE ACQUIRED	██████████ 25X1C	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Lepaya

1. The bridge across the Naval Harbor in Lepaya was not damaged at all during the war and is in exactly the same condition as before the war. So far as can be remembered, it is a swing bridge made of steel, with two sections opening in the middle. No street-car line goes across the bridge. Presumably it carries truck traffic, but very heavy vehicles have not been observed crossing the bridge. (See Sketches Nos. 1 and 2)
2. Nothing is known about a floating dock. However, a 100-ton Finnish fishing boat was once seen on the quay. This was presumably done by the big floating crane, which has a lifting capacity of 150 to 160 tons. This is locally known as the Naval Harbor Crane. The crane is marked with a number which has been forgotten. It is believed that it is powered by a diesel engine, as it was seen in the fishing harbor and no coal used as fuel was observed. It is the heaviest crane in the harbor of Lepaya.

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3. The only repair shops ██████████ are the Gosmorlov Repair Works located in Rigas iela, which repair fishing boat engines for craft of about 99 tons. Cylinders can be re-bored but repairs to the block are sent to the Naval Harbor workshops. Boats are sent for major repairs to the Naval Harbor. The works employ 100 or more men, who work one shift daily. In addition there are fitters who do repairs on the quays while boats are afloat. There are workshops for welding, blacksmiths, and shaping and machine tools. The shaping machines and lathes are not powered by individual motors but by one big electric motor which drives the machines by belts. Power from the town is used, and transformers have not been observed.
4. There is a new power plant under construction north of Brivibas iela, 500 m east of the former wire factory. It is still being built, but supposed to be already in production. Metal girders were still being brought to the site. It is not remembered whether it had a chimney. Some 20 transformers were observed just outside the power plant, each having about three large saucer-like objects on top, big at the bottom, getting smaller on top. It is not known whether the power station is only for the town, but it is thought that it may serve the surrounding rural area as well. There is still a shortage of electricity in the town and it is rationed.

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- 2 -

5. The old power station does not appear to be in particularly good or bad repair. Whether there are 3,000 Volts AC in the town is not known, and only some rumors that there is high voltage are remembered.
6. The northern warehouses in the Merchant Harbor are built of brick; of the southern war houses, those to the east and to the west are of brick, while those in the middle are not known, but it is believed that they belong to the Soviet Navy, as they are guarded by naval sentries. Discharging of cork has been observed on the northern bank and this material is stored in the open.
7. Tank trucks have been observed carrying oil from New Lepaya oil tanks to the fuel store in the Fishing Harbor. This is believed to be Avtol 18 (sic), also "aviation oil" use for fuel in ships. It is stored in tanks. There are two fuel tanks about four to five m wide and four to five m high, a pump house, a pipe line up to the pier, and a rubber hose to the fishing craft taking fuel. There are five oil tanks, each holding about 1,000 kilos. It is thought that the pump works by force of gravity as no engine was observed (See sketch No 3). Tank trucks delivering oil attached a hose to the top of the tank and pumped oil by using their own engines.
8. If the hull of a fishing boat needed to be scraped, this would be done after it had been lifted onto the quay in the Fishing Harbor by the floating crane Titan (lifting capacity 50 tons).
9. The following dredgers are stationed in Lepaya, usually in the Winter Harbor. They dredge wherever required.

2 small dredgers, one named RIGA and the other bearing a number, of size approximately 30 m long. Both dredge with buckets.

Another, named VOLKOV, is now believed to be in Klaipeda.

2 large dredgers, one named OKA, have suction dredges, and weigh approximately 3,000 tons each. They go to Ventspils occasionally.

10. The legend to the attached photograph of the Lepaya Winter Harbor is as follows:

1. Winter Harbor
2. Merchant Harbor
3. Floating crane Titan
4. Warehouse believed to be no longer in existence
5. Crane no longer there
6. Typical size of cranes
7. Site where new bath house (Banya) has been built.
8. Quay where anti-submarine vessels (BO) are usually moored.

VENTSPILS

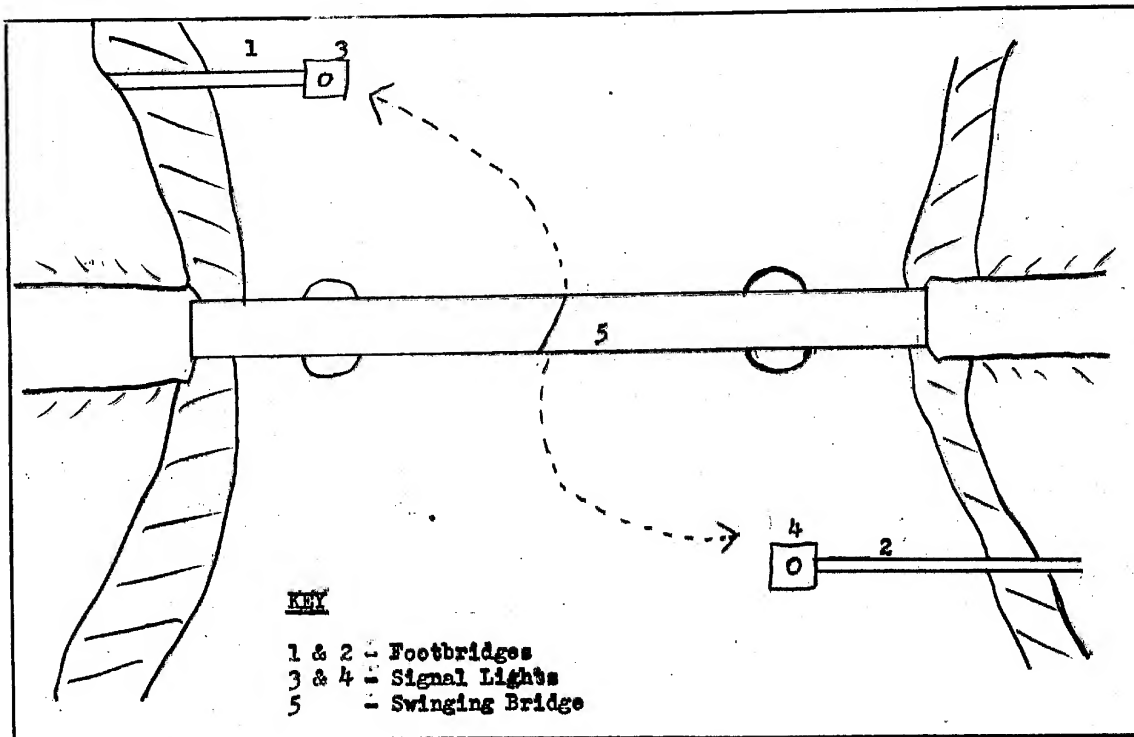
11. The pontoon bridge at Ventspils is made of wood, and all truck traffic up to at least five-ton vehicles crosses over it. No streetcars were observed in Ventspils. In the middle of the bridge there is some sort of superstructure which is believed to be for opening up the bridge for shipping. All tugs pass beneath the bridge; the clearance is two to three m in most places, but one span in the western half of the bridge has a clearance of five to six m. The bridge has been there since before the war.
12. A steel bridge is located below the pontoon bridge at the bend of the river. The middle span is destroyed. It was last seen in March 1952. So far as can be remembered the frames are arch-shaped. This bridge is believed to have been built during the war.
13. Floating docks were not observed in Ventspils. It is known that fishing boats have been lifted by crane onto the quay for repairs, and naval cutters have been observed lifted onto the quay in the Naval Repair Yard. No information is available concerning the repair workshops.
14. The lifting capacity of the cranes is not known, nor how they are worked (diesel, electric, etc.). The location of the power station is not known. So far as can be remembered, the warehouses were of brick, but there is no information on what they contained. Informant does not remember having seen any dredgers. The fuel stores in Ventspils appear to be smaller than those in Lepaya, but no further details are available.

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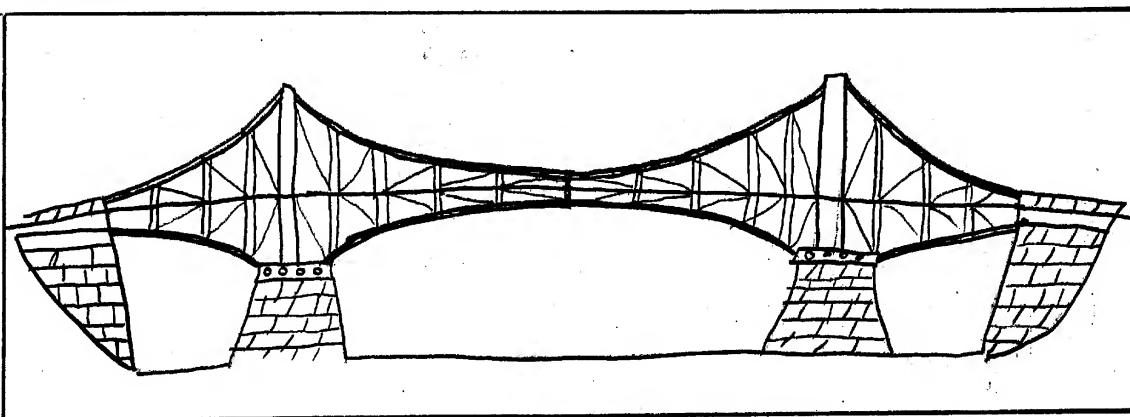
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-3 -

SKETCH 1



SKETCH 2

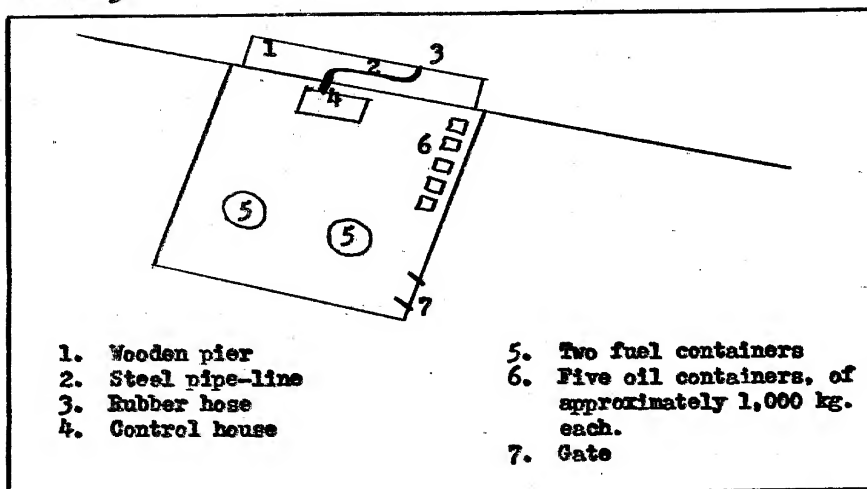


The pre-war bridge at Lepaya was as shown in these two sketches. The swing bridge was turned by manual power with two men at each end. The bridge was slightly arched.

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- 4 -

Fuel Store in Lepaya Fishing Harbor**SKETCH 3**

Enclosure: 1 photograph of Lepaya Winter Harbor
(See para 10 for legend)

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